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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/512,260	02/24/2000	Lynn M. Adams	03037.86702	5959

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EXAMINER

DEBERRY, REGINA M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1647

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/512,260

Applicant(s)

ADAMS ET AL.

Examiner

Regina M. DeBerry

Art Unit

1647

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 1-34 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-7, drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising a portion of CFTR (cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator) protein, classified in class 530, subclass 300.
- II. Claims 8-16, 18, 21-29, 31, 34, drawn to a method of activating a CFTR protein comprising applying a polypeptide to a CFTR protein which forms a cAMP regulated chloride channel, classified in class 435, subclass 183.
- III. Claims 8, 17, 21, 30, drawn to a method of activating a CFTR protein comprising applying a polypeptide to a CFTR protein which forms a cAMP regulated chloride channel, wherein the step of applying is performed by administering an aerosolized polypeptide to a patient with a mutant CFTR protein, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- IV. Claims 8, 19, 20, 21, 32, 33, drawn to a method of activating a CFTR protein comprising applying a polypeptide to a CFTR protein which forms a cAMP regulated chloride channel, wherein the step of applying the polypeptide is accomplished by administering a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide to a patient who expresses the CFTR protein, whereby the polypeptide is expressed, and wherein the nucleic acid is administered as an aerosol to the patient's airways, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

Inventions I (product) and II, III, IV (process of use) are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product of Group I can be use in methods to make antibodies or in processes to isolate binding proteins.

Although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in M.P.E.P. §806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different methods, restriction is deemed to be proper because these methods appear to constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons: Groups II-IV are directed to methods that recite structurally and functionally distinct elements, are not required one for the other, and/or achieve different goals. Invention II is drawn to *in vitro* methods of activating a CFTR protein. Invention III is drawn to methods of activating a CFTR protein using gene therapy requiring administration of a protein. Invention IV is drawn to methods of activating a CFTR protein using gene therapy requiring administration of nucleic acids. Therefore, a search and examination of all three methods in one patent application would result in an undue burden, since the searches for the three methods are not co-extensive, the classification is different, and/or the subject matter is divergent.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, separate

search requirements, and/or recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina M. DeBerry whose telephone number is (703) 305-6915. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz can be reached on (703) 308-4623. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7939 for regular communications and (703) 308-2742 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

RMD

RMD
June 26, 2001



ELIZABETH KEMMERER
PRIMARY EXAMINER